

Mt. View Lutheran Church Council

July 19, 2022

Church Library 6:30-7:30pm

MINUTES

Attendance

Present: Pastor Bri, Pastor Eric, Fred Albert, Ken Swanson, Kevin Dahl, Bob Yost, Skip Harrison, Gretchen Johnsrud, Joel DeWitt, Dan Iysne, Jenny Grayum, Emily Thompson, Jason Cornell - Treasurer

Zoom: Karen Hansen

Absent: Carol Powers

Call to Order

Kevin Dahl called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Devotion

Kevin Dahl shared a devotion on Psalm 121. Where does my strength come from?

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was M/S/P to accept the minutes of the Saturday June 18, 2022 meeting of the MVLC Church Council

SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS

It was M/S/P to accept the written reports for the Tuesday July 19, 2022 Council Meeting that were submitted for its agenda by the following individuals and ministry groups:

Treasurer's Report - submitted by Jason Cornell

An in-person update was given on the current financial status of the congregation.

President's Report - Submitted by Kevin Dahl

- Crisis Reality Training: Carol Powers informed the Exec. Team of a potential training we could make available to the congregation and also, potentially, to the larger community. This training seeks to prepare people to respond effectively in the event of an armed/violent threat at the church (or community center, food bank, etc.)

Discussion was had on the possibility of a training. All agreed that this would be beneficial for leaders in the congregation. Council would like to use this as an opportunity to put together a crisis plan for the campus. Ken will reach out to Troy and a homeland security trainer about starting with a free training for MVLC. We will revisit this after the training to see if it would be beneficial to offer something to the wider community.

- Retreat Committee: We are in need of 1 or 2 council members to help with the planning of our fall retreat (Sept 30/ Oct 1). They will be joining myself and the pastors in this.
 - **Dan and Gretchen both agree to be on this committee**
- Administrator Position: The search continues for the right person to fill this position. As a council, we need to get creative to find ways to help meet the responsibilities this person would be responding to. Marlene has picked up a significant amount of this work but this is not sustainable.
- Committee Liaisons: Council needs to finish "filling in" the committees/appreciation opportunities so each of these groups can effectively interact with council leadership.
 - **All opportunities were happily filled by council members.**

Stewardship - Jenny Grayum

Pastor Eric Bostrom has confirmed participants to serve on the 2022 Stewardship committee. The committee's first meeting is scheduled for August 10th. Proposed agenda topics for the first meeting include:

Discuss Stewardship committee language

Review stewardship / generosity resources from the Salt Project

Begin planning for congregational outreach currently scheduled between Oct 30 – Nov 13

Begin planning for the final “Consecration Sunday” events, meals, and activities, which is currently scheduled for November 13th.

Please do not hesitate to pass along any feedback or suggested ideas regarding annual stewardship activities to Pastor Eric

Peace and Justice - Fred Albert

Letter going out to the benevolences we support asking what the impact is for the 1000.00 we gifted. This to help is evaluating next year's benevolences.

Discussed volunteer projects for “All Hands Trash pickup” set to do on September 10th

Trash pickup along 122nd Ave E.

Yard cleanup to be designated

Assemble Manna Bags to people to hand out to homeless.

P&J assembled soup kits for the community center (2nd time) April 30th

Property - Dan Neptun

So far this year, we've attempted to make purchases as little as possible to minimize impact on our spend plan. Property expenses have been focused on necessary inspections/updates required to keep up with the upkeep expectations of a public/commercial establishment. Some of the HoneyDoers have purchased items for projects and simply stated that they will be donations.

The long-planned removal of the triple-weeping-birch tree in front of the chapel was completed today. Jeff Quinn found a responsive tree service and paid them just under \$1000. He will seek reimbursement from MVLC for the tree removal. The HoneyDoers will take care of stump grinding as a self-help project in the weeks ahead, saving the church just under \$300.

In the month ahead, the HoneyDoers will be painting some areas on the admin bldg where the original paint hasn't held up well against the southern exposure, and HoneyDoers will continue pressure cleaning building surfaces and keeping up with normal wear and tear across our campus/landscaping tasks.

This fall, we'll attempt to get to the bottom of whether or not we can level out the dirt mounds in the back forty that were piled there to save \$\$\$ during construction in 2016 by the builders of the new admin bldg. (BPCI Accrete Construction LLC). In past years, we've been confronted by city code enforcement staff and some nagging neighbors about our cleanup efforts along the east/SE edge of our property, adjacent to the wetland buffer area signs along the unofficial 'overflow lot.' We decided to do nothing in that space during 2021 to avoid silly confrontations. More on this in the months ahead!

Deacons - Ken Swanson

The deacon ministry is going strong. There were several new members added this summer. Orientation will be in August for all the new members with a general meeting for all deacons scheduled for September

Food Bank - Bob Yost

The Food Bank numbers have increased to about 320 people a week. They were able to move back into the building allowing the clients to shop again. COVID protocols are being followed requiring all people to wear a mask in the building

Pastor's Written reports

Pastor Eric

Thank you for a week of vacation, July 3-10. My sister and her family visited us from Rochester, MN and we had a wonderful time exploring the Puget Sound Area together.

I look forward to conversation with every council member this summer about our mission statement. If you missed my sermon on July 3, I recommend you listen because I focus on God's mission in general. I am convinced that clarifying our mission here at Mt View will be enormously helpful. What are your ideas and questions about Mt View's mission? Remember the Staff/Council Retreat is Sept 30-Oct 1 and the theme will be our mission statement.

Finding a full-time church administrator is proving to be harder than we expected. We will continue the search with a variety of job search resources & PB are beginning to strategize for interim property help for Marlene if this job search takes longer than we want. The interim property help will be members PB and I invite to organize and carry out some of the annual inspections our property requires. This will begin to take jobs off of Marlene's plate.

The young adult Cornerstone group is going to a Tacoma Rainiers game, Thursday, July 14.

The congregation is invited to a Tacoma Rainiers game, Wednesday, Aug 17. The first congregational hike is at Point Defiance and is Saturday, July 16. Fred Albert and I are leading.

July 16 I am auditioning for Choral Union, PLU's community and alumni choir. I have three reasons for wanting to join this choir. 1) I'd love to see Annika on campus every once in a while. 2) I love to sing choral music. 3) I want to build up a network at PLU so that I can know more people and be known in the PLU community.

Planning continues to move forward positively on moving our Wed evening programs to Thurs evening. Marlene is beginning to reach out to meal volunteers and PB & I are beginning to plan some special experiences that we tie into Holden Evening Prayer. In September, our Thursday evenings will be just Mt View. MVCC isn't sure when they will start their Thursday evenings, but when they do we will combine our efforts.

The stewardship team is reformed and meeting Wed. Aug 10. Mt View's Stewardship Campaign will be three Sundays: Oct 30 – Nov 13.

In dialogue with the Music and Worship Team, we are planning to begin using the Narrative Lectionary in Sept 2022. This is a lectionary developed by Luther Seminary. This lectionary is four years long, each year focuses on one Gospel, and covers almost the entire Bible. The benefit of this lectionary is that it's organized in a way to live in an entire book of the Bible Sunday after Sunday. Sunday, July 31, will be a special Sunday designed by Hannah Johnsrud. She is a chapel leader at LSTC and is designing a worship for Mt View in the seminary style. Hannah will also be our preacher for this Sunday.

The Mt View church picnic is Sunday, Aug 14, and we are inviting Celebration of Life church, the Spanish speaking congregation using our chapel, to join us for this fellowship event. Through fellowship we are seeking a better sense of partnership between our two worshipping communities.

Pastor Bri

VBS: Much of my time these last few weeks has gone into finalizing VBS. We had approximately 55 kids participate, as well as lots of our teens help as volunteers, in addition to around 45 adult volunteers. There was a great energy throughout the week. Pope and I passed out feedback request forms to volunteers to generate input for next year.

I invite your reflections from VBS if you, a child or grandchild participated.

Flathead: Pope and I leave with 4 middle school youth for Flathead early the morning of July 24th. We'll return late on July 29th from a full week at camp.

Children in Worship: In August I'll begin introducing elements of our new children's space to the sanctuary. I plan to share a written explanation in the E-news and share about this new addition during worship. In the Fall, we may offer a time of conversation regarding the children's space in the Sanctuary.

Vacation: I took Monday June 27th to Thursday June 30th off as vacation. I also plan to take 2 weeks off in August, from the 15th to 28th.

Closing Prayer - Joel DeWitt

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Johnsrud
Council Secretary

